Untitled document

UNH Assistant Vice President will discuss university's use of combined heat and power technology, a key tenet of Bass' bill

July 10, 2012

WASHINGTON – Congressman Charles F. Bass (NH-02) announced today that Paul D. Chamberlin, the Assistant Vice President of Energy and Campus Development at the University of New Hampshire, will testify on Bass' bipartisan Smart Energy Act before the House Subcommittee on Energy and Power on Thursday.

The hearing, which will be held at 9:15 a.m. on Thursday, July 12, in Room 2123 of the Rayburn House Office Building, will examine Bass' bipartisan legislation to get the federal government and many businesses on a path to greater energy efficiency and cost savings. The hearing will be webcast live at http://energycommerce.house.gov/. A list of other witnesses testifying at the hearing can be found

Chamberlin is responsible for all aspects of the campus energy and utility systems at the University of New Hampshire, as well as the facility planning, design, and construction of the 5.5 million square-foot campus in Durham. Chamberlin is a registered professional engineer and holds a Bachelor of Science in civil engineering from the University of California, Davis and a Master of Science from the University of California, Berkeley.

Bass said, "It's an honor to have Paul join me at the hearing on Thursday to talk about how combined heat and power technology – a component of my Smart Energy Act – will help to reduce overall energy costs. Paul's experience in working with these unique systems at our state's largest university will be a terrific addition to the hearing on Thursday and demonstrates how New Hampshire companies, schools, and nonprofits are leading the way in developing and utilizing energy efficiency technologies."

Chamberlin said, "As a recognized leader in improved energy efficiency, the University of New Hampshire applauds the efforts of Representative Bass to increase our nation's combined heat and power and waste heat recovery capabilities. The University of New Hampshire has combined a modern cogeneration plant with a one-of-a-kind system that replaces natural gas with gas from a nearby landfill as the primary cogeneration plant fuel. Called ECOLine, the \$49 million investment is demonstrating that creative application of technology can make practical use of non-traditional energy sources a reality while substantially reducing regional air pollution emissions. Landfill gas now provides nearly 70% of the campus energy and nearly 80% of the fuel used by the cogeneration plant to create steam and electric power for the campus."

Specifically, Bass' Smart Energy Act will:

• Optimize the use of energy savings performance contracts (ESPCs) to create jobs and improve performance of federal buildings by leveraging private sector investment in public building projects.

- Establish a strategic plan to double the production of electricity through the use of combined heat and power (CHP) and waste heat recovery by 2020. Maximizing energy already created for both its thermal and electric generation capabilities is a core definition of efficiency.
- Direct federal agencies to take common-sense first steps—such as data center consolidation, personal computer power savings techniques, and participation in utility demand-response programs—to better manage energy consumption.

Bass toured several companies in New Hampshire earlier this year to see firsthand how they are utilizing new energy efficiency technologies to reduce energy costs and power their facilities, including Velcro USA in Manchester, Concord Steam, and the Crotched Mountain Rehabilitation Center in Greenfield.

-- 30 --